

WASHINGTON STAR

MAY 1 1958

# Laos Holiday Draws Throng to Embassy

Just about every segment of Washington's official colony was represented yesterday when the Ambassador of Laos and Mme. Souvannavong entertained at their country's beautiful S street Embassy in observance of Laos Constitution Day.

The late afternoon party commemorated the 11th anniversary of Laos as a constitutional monarchy.

Wearing her country's national costume, Mme. Souvannavong greeted guests in a "sin" or skirt which was of dark green silk woven with bands of gold thread. She also wore a sleeveless blouse or "sua" and over this the "phabing," a long silk scarf threaded and banded with gold and draped over the shoulders.

The Ambassador and Mme. Souvannavong stood in the Embassy drawing room to welcome the more than 500 guests there to celebrate the Laos national holiday.

In their usual fashion, the Laos host and hostess served a lavish buffet where guests helped themselves before wandering off to individual tables.

Absolutely no one went away empty-handed from the buffet, where one had innumerable choices such as lobster a la American with rice, chicken creole, potatoes parmentier, cold salmon a la, with remoulade sauce and cold sliced roast beef, field ham, individual portions of pheasant, and a large (looking for all the world like the live version) of capon.

For dessert there was a choice of strawberries, fresh strawberries, or petit fours.

Out-of-town guests for the event were a group of bankers and their wives from New York. They included Mr. and Mrs. James of the Chase National Bank, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. J. of the Bank of America, and Mrs. August of the Irving Trust Co. and Mrs. Mildred Hughes who is with the Far East American Council of Commerce and Industry.

With very few exceptions, every ambassador, charge d'affaires or minister from each of the embassies here in Washington came to the party. France's Ambassador Alphand, who is said to be in his home country being married this week, sent as his representative French Minister and Mme. Lucet. Others from the French Embassy were the Minister and Mme. Valeur and the French Counselor and Mme. Manet.

Among those from Capitol Hill were Representative and Mrs. Clement Zablocki, Representative Barratt O'Hara, Mrs. Lawrence H. Smith and Representative and Mrs. Dante Fascell. Senator Theodore Green also came to the party as well as Senator and Mrs. John Sparkman, Senator and Mrs. Mike Mansfield, Senator Russell Long and Senator and Mrs. John Kennedy.

There was a large contingent present from the State Department headed by Under Secretary of State and Mrs. Christian Herter, Protocol Chief and Mrs. Wiley Buchanan, Assistant Protocol Chief and Mrs. Clement, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Hoffer, Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Hix and former Ambassador to Laos and Mrs. Graham Parsons.

## The Dean of the Diplomatic

and Senora de Sevilla came by as did Judge and Mrs. Homer Ferguson, Mr. Raymond Clapper, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Morris and Protocol Chief and Mrs. Parr Simmons.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bedell Smith also were among the hundreds present as well as CIA Director and Mrs. Allen Dulles, Mrs. Harold Coolidge, CIA Director and Mrs. George and Dr. Thomas Dooley and many more.

